



SOUTH KESTEVEN  
RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL

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ANNUAL REPORT  
OF THE  
MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH  
FOR THE  
YEAR, 1969



SOUTH KESTEVEN RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL

PUBLIC HEALTH COMMITTEE

1969

Chairman

Councillor Dr. J.A. Galletly

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Vice-Chairman

Councillor H. Scarborough

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Members

Councillor H.W. Bailey.

Councillor H. Brown.

Councillor J.C. Cave.

Councillor J.C. Clapton.

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Councillor E.A. D'Arcy.

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Councillor Rev. D.L. Scott. J.P.

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Councillor R.A. Stanton.

Councillor R.W. Stanton.

Councillor Hon. Mrs. D.N.

Trollope-Bellew. J.P.

Councillor H. Thorold.

Councillor F.H. Whincup.

STAFF OF THE PUBLIC HEALTH DEPARTMENT

Medical Officer of Health	H. Ellis Smith, M.B., B.Ch., B.A.O., D.P.H., Wake House, North Street, BOURNE. Tel. No. Bourne 2436.
Chief Public Health Inspector and Building Surveyor	Walter A. Chivers, F.A.P.H.I., M.R.S.H., Wake House, North Street, BOURNE. Tel. No. Bourne 2436.
Senior Additional Public Health Inspector	John G. Bower, M.A.P.H.I., C.R.S.H.
Additional Public Health Inspector	Denis Goodley, M.A.P.H.I., M.R.S.H.
Sewage Works Chemist	Vernon B. Maxfield.
Building Inspector	Charles H. Busby.
Trainee Public Health Inspector	Robert B. Capindale.
Assistant Chemist	Grenville Herd (Appointed 10.2.69.) (Resigned 31.10.69.) Miss J. Atkin (Appointed 15.12.69.)
Shorthand-Typist and General Clerk	Miss J. Rawlinson.
Junior Clerk	Miss N. Foster.
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Clerk of the Council.	J.J.C. Goulder, M.B.E.
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SOUTH KESTEVEN RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL

Annual Report of the Medical Officer of Health  
for the Year 1969.

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To the Chairman and Members  
of the South Kesteven Rural District Council  
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Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

I have pleasure in presenting my fifteenth Annual Report which is that for the year 1969.

SECTION A.

STATISTICS AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS

Area in Acres .. .. .	95,061
Population (Registrar General's Figures 1969) .. .. .	16,450
Number of inhabited houses.. .. .	5,970
Rateable Value.. .. .	£400,626
Sum represented by a 1d. rate (Estimated) .. .. .	£1619 7s. 7d.

Vital Statistics for the year 1969

Note: Birth and Death Rates

As the age and sex distribution of the population in different areas materially affects both the Birth and Death Rates of these areas, comparability factors allowing for this are issued by the Registrar General for each Local Government Unit. These factors may be used for calculating what are termed in this report as "Net" rates and fairer comparisons are obtained if the latter are used when comparing rates with those of any other area (when these have been similarly adjusted) or with the Rates for the Country as a whole.

These factors for Births and Deaths in respect of South Kesteven are 1.03 and 1.05 in each case. The corresponding figures when multiplied by the Crude Rate (that is for Births or Deaths as the case may be) will give the Net Rate.

	M	F	TOTAL
Total Live Births .. .. .	144	166	310
Legitimate .. .. .	136	156	292
Illegitimate .. .. .	8	10	18

Crude Live Birth Rate per 1,000 of estimated population	-	18.8
Net Live Birth Rate per 1,000 of estimated population	-	19.4
Rate for England and Wales	-	16.3

Illegitimate Live Births per cent of Total Live Births	-	5.8%
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	M	F	TOTAL
Still Births .. .. .	3	1	4
Legitimate .. .. .	3	1	4
Illegitimate .. .. .	-	-	NIL

Still Birth Rate per 1,000 Live and Still Births	-	13.0
Rate for England and Wales	-	13.0

Total Live and Still Births .. .. .	314
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	M	F	TOTAL
Deaths.. .. .	75	82	157

Crude Death Rate per 1,000 of estimated population	-	9.5
Net Death Rate per 1,000 of estimated population	-	10.0
Rate for England and Wales	-	11.9

Infantile Mortality - Deaths of Infants under one year

	M	F	TOTAL
Number of Deaths .. .. .	2	1	3
Legitimate .. .. .	2	1	3
Illegitimate .. .. .	-	-	NIL

Infantile Mortality Rate per 1,000 Live Births	-	10.0
Rate for England and Wales	-	18.0

The number of deaths of infants under one year of age was

4 in 1967                      and                      5 in 1968

Infantile Mortality Rate per 1,000 Legitimate Live Births	10.0
Rate for England and Wales	18.0
Infantile Mortality Rate per 1,000 Illegitimate Live Births	NIL
Rate for England and Wales	25.0

Neo-Natal Mortality i.e. Deaths of infants under four weeks of age	-	1 male 1 female
Neo-Natal Mortality Rate per 1,000 Live Births	-	6.0
Neo-Natal Mortality Rate for England and Wales	-	12.0
Early Neo-Natal Mortality Rate per 1,000 Live Births	-	6.0
Early Neo-Natal Mortality Rate per 1,000 Live Births in England and Wales	-	10.0
Early Neo-Natal Deaths i.e. Deaths of infants under one week of age	-	1 male 1 female
Peri-Natal Deaths		6
Peri-Natal Mortality Rate (i.e. Still Births and Deaths under one week combined) per 1,000 Total Live and Still Births	-	19.0
Rate for England and Wales	-	23.0

There was no Maternal Death i.e. death due to Pregnancy, Childbirth or Abortion.

Maternal Mortality Rate per 1,000 Live and Still Births	NIL
Maternal Mortality Rate for England and Wales	0.25

The Live Birth Rate at the corrected figure of 19.4 was three per thousand better than the National figure; which this year again showed a downward trend.

For the second year in succession the Still Birth Rate exactly matched that for England and Wales as a whole at thirteen.

The Death Rates for this Rural District were again two per thousand better than the National average.

The Infantile Mortality Rate at ten per thousand live births was eight per thousand better than the National figure. This latter at eighteen has been equalled but never excelled in this land. There has been a steadily progressive improvement in this domain of maternal and child care over the past fifteen years.

Peri-Natal Mortality is in many ways the most significant figure of all in assessing our obstetric and paediatric skills. The figure for South Kesteven was nineteen and so four better than the Nation at large.

It will be seen that everyone of the figures mentioned above are in our favour. It must however be borne in mind that with the comparatively small population involved a small change in the numbers of births and deaths will result in a large swing in the Rates

Two of the infantile deaths were within a week of their birth.

#### Causes of Infantile Deaths

Intraventricular Haemorrhage, Hypoglycaemia	1 day	Male
Haemolytic Disease of the Newborn	4 days	Female
E. Coli. Meningitis, Torsion of Lt. Testicle	2 months	Male

The eighteen illegitimate births were four less than the previous year. It must never be forgotten however that even in these permissive days a child born out of wedlock is a child born with an initial handicap in life. It is the birthright of all children to have their real mother and father to nurture them within a secure home. Only in such circumstances is the child most likely to develop all its physical, mental and emotional potentialities to the full.

The Natural increase, that is the excess of live births over deaths, was 153 compared with 140 in 1968 and 142 in 1967. The steady natural growth of this rural community has progressed still further this year. The population growth has also been accelerated by the considerable influx of population, particularly into the Parishes south of Bourne.

The Comparability Factors for both births and deaths are practically unity which reflects the fact that the population of this community is virtually the same as a cross section of the Country as a whole. This is a healthy state of affairs.

The introduction of Computers do not always speed the Statistics ! This year those from the Registrar General which are essential for this Section of the Report were three weeks later than usual.

CAUSES OF DEATH TABLE

		<u>M</u>	<u>F</u>	<u>TOTAL</u>
1.	Syphilis and Its Sequelae .. .. .	1	-	1
2.	Malignant Neoplasm, Buccal Cavity Etc .. .. .	-	1	1
3.	Malignant Neoplasm, Oesophagus.. .. .	1	-	1
4.	Malignant Neoplasm, Stomach .. .. .	1	1	2
5.	Malignant Neoplasm, Intestine .. .. .	2	3	5
6.	Malignant Neoplasm, Lung, Bronchus.. .. .	7	2	9
7.	Malignant Neoplasm, Breast.. .. .	-	2	2
8.	Malignant Neoplasm, Uterus.. .. .	-	2	2
9.	Malignant Neoplasm, Prostate .. .. .	1	-	1
10.	Leukaemia .. .. .	1	-	1
11.	Other Malignant Neoplasms .. .. .	6	3	9
12.	Diabetes Mellitus .. .. .	-	1	1
13.	Anaemias .. .. .	1	1	2
14.	Meningitis.. .. .	1	-	1
15.	Other Diseases of Nervous System, Etc .. .. .	-	1	1
16.	Chronic Rheumatic Heart Disease .. .. .	1	-	1
17.	Hypertensive Disease .. .. .	2	3	5
18.	Ischaemic Heart Disease .. .. .	15	18	33
19.	Other forms of Heart Disease .. .. .	6	9	15
20.	Cerebrovascular Disease .. .. .	5	15	20
21.	Other Diseases of Circulatory System .. .. .	-	3	3
22.	Influenza .. .. .	-	3	3
23.	Pneumonia .. .. .	5	5	10
24.	Bronchitis and Emphysema .. .. .	4	-	4
25.	Other Diseases of Digestive System.. .. .	2	-	2
26.	Hyperplasia of Prostate .. .. .	3	-	3
27.	Diseases of Musculo-Skeletal System .. .. .	-	1	1
28.	Congenital Anomalies .. .. .	2	-	2
29.	Birth Injury, Difficult Labour, Etc .. .. .	1	-	1
30.	Other Causes of Perinatal Mortality .. .. .	-	1	1
31.	Symptoms and Ill Defined Conditions .. .. .	3	2	5
32.	Motor Vehicle Accidents .. .. .	3	1	4
33.	All Other Accidents .. .. .	1	3	4
34.	All Other External Causes .. .. .	-	1	1
TOTALS		75	82	157

Diseases of the Cardio-Vascular system were as usual at the top of the list of causes of death accounting for seventy seven or almost a half. Of these, thirty three were due to Coronary disease and twenty to "Strokes". With the conquering of so many of the communicable diseases and also of deaths due to infection it is natural that more should succumb to the degenerative diseases which stem from the processes of aging. Much research is currently taking place into the cause of these processes and what steps can be taken to slow them down. In the meantime a proper balance between work and relaxation, moderation in all things and in particular at the meal table are the best assurances of keeping the Cardio-Vascular system healthy; and incidentally of maintaining general good health. Overweight is a common complaint which needs watching and appropriate action.

Malignant growths again hold the invidious position of second place in the Death Table, being responsible for twenty four. Of these seven males and two females - nine in all - succumbed to cancer of the lung. This is largely a self inflicted disease. There can be none but the illiterate who do not know of the relationship between it and cigarette smoking.

All too many still hold fast to:-

"Where ignorance is bliss.  
Tis folly to be wise"

Ignorance in their case is replaced however by a stubborn resistance to facing the facts of the relationship. Three fifths of the men in this Country still smoke. It is estimated by eminent medical sources that throughout the land one seventh of the total deaths and one fifth of the total sickness are due to smoking. Both Bronchitis and Coronary disease amongst other diseases are also related to the habit. The Government play an ambivalent part by drawing attention to the risk on the one hand while the Treasury derived £1143 million this year from the devotees of Lady Nicotine on the other. Compare this with the £1240 million bill for the whole of the U.K. National Health Service.

Two deaths from Cancer of uterus whilst numerically small does serve to remind women of the screening facilities available in combating this disease, by detecting it at an early and easily treatable stage.

Diseases of the Respiratory System in third place accounted for seventeen. Of these at least a half were due to the epidemic of influenza during the closing weeks of the year. As is usual with this affliction it bore heavily on those in the older age groups.

Four deaths were caused by motor vehicle accidents including one boy aged twelve years. The terrible toll of the roads goes on like a wartime casualty list of dead and injured.

8,253 were killed, 106,102 seriously injured and the total casualties

were 415,850 on this Country's roads in 1969.

Accidents were also responsible for four other deaths:-

One aged 71 died of accidental poisoning with  
Amitriptylene and Chlorpromazine

One aged 69 died as the result of her nightdress  
catching fire from an electric fire in her  
bedroom.

One aged 83 fell downstairs and died of a fractured  
skull, and

One aged 87 died from the effects of a broken femur  
which occurred in the home.

For the second year in succession there was no suicide in the Rural  
District.

Forty four per cent of the deaths were in those aged 75 years or more.  
This indicates the need for appropriate Social, Welfare and Housing services  
for the Elderly as many more are achieving these added years ! Let us make  
sure they are well provided for and are comfortable.

SECTION B.                      GENERAL PROVISIONS OF HEALTH SERVICES  
   IN THE AREA

Nursing in the Home

District Nurse/Midwives are employed full or part time within the  
District situated as follows:

Witham-on-the-Hill	-	Miss Horne
Corby Glen	-	Mrs. Love
Rippingale	-	Mrs. Bird
Folkingham	-	Mrs. Charlton
Deeping St. James	-	Mrs. Aldridge
Langtoft	-	Miss Lambert

Miss Tully and Miss Windle of Bourne also cover Morton and Thurlby and  
Miss Morris and Mrs. Ludlow of Stamford cover the Uffington area.

Health Visiting

There is an Establishment for three Health Visitors in the South Kesteven -  
Bourne - Stamford area. Two of these posts are now filled - those at Stamford  
and Bourne and they serve parts of the Rural District as well. The remainder  
is served by the District Nurse/Midwives and three School Nurses.

The work consists of providing a comprehensive advisory service to the whole of the family and in particular to assist in Child Care, to support the socially inadequate, to help the elderly, and to advise the patients and family in cases of Tubercle. Those who hold these posts need to have a wide knowledge of Nursing and an ever increasing one of social work as well.

### Home Helps

This service has now been carrying on its humanitarian work for a full two decades. It originated as a service to the Expectant and Nursing mother but this aspect has largely been superceded in providing for the needs of the Elderly, the Disabled and those in social need. It permits the elderly to remain in comfort in their own homes long after they would otherwise be forced into Welfare Homes or Hospital by the disabilities of age. It tides the ordinary family over a domestic crisis and keeps the Problem Family from disruption. The living testimony to its achievement lies in the number of homes tenanted by elderly single individuals and the families which have been saved from disintegration through its efforts. It is difficult now to imagine just what did happen prior to Home Helps appearing on the scene.

18 Home Helps are employed for work in the Rural District.

7 Good Neighbours are also employed to provide supportive help to others living within the vicinity of their own homes. There are 72 cases on the books of which 70 are over 65 years of age.

Office times for inquiries are:

#### Barn Hill House, Stamford

Monday to	-	8.45 a.m.	-	12.30 p.m.
Friday	-	1.30 p.m.	-	5.15 p.m.

### Mental Welfare

Mr. H.S. Townsend, Mental Welfare Officer, provides the link between the Family Doctor, the Mentally Ill patient and the Hospital Service. He also carries out the statutory duties laid down in the Mental Welfare Act, 1959, and does preventive work in this field. His headquarters are at the Barnhill Clinic, Stamford. Telephone No. Stamford 2906. Home Telephone No. Bourne 2983.

### Infant Welfare Centres

These are provided at Billingborough, Castle Bytham, Corby Glen, Folkingham, Market Deeping, Morton, Thurlby and Deeping St. James, where the average attendance has now risen to 58 per session.

A doctor attends all the Clinics except those at Morton and Thurlby.

The population expansion is now making such demands on the Market Deeping Clinic that it has outgrown its present location in the Town Hall and prams also create a problem by their congregation on the pavement outside. This is a great shame as it is the only one of the eight where there is the civilising benefit of hot running water. The average attendance on each clinic session is now 47.

At all these centres, Welfare Foods and infant feeding supplements are made available and a very hearty expression of gratitude is given to all the ladies who devote so much time and dedication to the work and give such invaluable assistance to the Health Visitors and the writer.

### Immunisation

Immunisation against Diphtheria, Whooping Cough and Tetanus and vaccination against Measles, Smallpox and Poliomyelitis are provided without cost to the recipients by the family doctors. All these items of service are provided on request and without prior appointments - except in the case of Measles - at the Stamford, Bourne, Market Deeping, Deeping St. James, Castle Bytham, Folkingham and Billingborough Clinics.

### Mothercraft and Relaxation Classes

These are held at the Barn Hill Clinic, Stamford on Tuesday afternoons and on Wednesday afternoons at the Bourne Clinic. Sixteen mothers to be from this Rural District attended the Bourne Classes and eight the Stamford ones, the same number at the Bourne course but a decrease of five at the Stamford one on the previous year.

The course consists of eight lectures covering ante-natal care, preparation for confinement and infant care. Relaxation exercises are taught, films are shown and the occasion made a thoroughly enjoyable one.

### School Health Service

Clinics are held both at Barn Hill, Stamford and North Street, Bourne, providing Ophthalmic, Physiotherapy, Speech Therapy and minor ailment services.

### School and Maternity and Child Welfare Dental Services

During the year, all the children attending primary schools were dentally inspected. A total of 2760 inspections were made and 1220 were found to need treatment. 1687 were inspected for the first time and of these 682 were found in need of treatment. A total of 1118 courses of treatment were completed during the year. The ratio of fillings to extractions was two to one.

Marginally fewer permanent teeth were extracted this year by comparison with 1968 but twenty five per cent fewer deciduous teeth were extracted in the School Age groups.

Nineteen orthodontic cases were treated and twenty two dental appliances were fitted. During the period, 383 sessions were devoted to treatment and 58 to inspections. There was no formal Dental Health Education this year but chairside opportunities were grasped to further dental health. It is of much regret that after building up this Service following on a long hiatus in it that Mr. Parsons should be now leaving to enter private practice.

### Cervical Cytology Clinic

During the year the number of new patients availing themselves of this service, provided at the Barnhill Clinic, was 384. In addition fifty-one other patients were recalled for repeat smears making a total of 435. Thirty-seven of these came from this Rural District, an increase of five on the previous year.

One unsuspected case of cancer of the cervix was discovered and she had the appropriate treatment from a consultant Gynaecologist. In addition, thirteen were discovered to require treatment for other gynaecological conditions.

The Clinic is held on the second and fourth Thursday afternoons in the month by the writer, relieved on several occasions by Dr. A. Whiteley. This clinic is not patronised from the Rural District as frequently as would be expected.

### Ambulance Service

This is provided for the Rural District by a radio-controlled system from centres at Stamford where there are three ambulances and one dual purpose vehicle, and Bourne where there are two ambulances and two dual purpose vehicles. Small areas are also served from Sleaford and Grantham. The Hospital Car Service too makes a valuable contribution to the organisation.

### Services provided by the Regional Hospital Boards

All the usual Hospital Services are provided by the East Anglian Regional Hospital Board for the southern part of the area, from Hospitals situated in Peterborough, Stamford and Bourne. Similar services are provided by the Sheffield Regional Hospital Board in the northern areas from the Grantham Hospital. This latter Board provides the services for the Mentally Disabled throughout the whole area, from their Hospitals at Harmston Hall and Rauceby. This year has seen the opening of the great new District Hospital at Peterborough which provides intern and out patient treatment to the most exacting standards.

## Venereal Disease

Clinics are held at the Out Patients' Department, Memorial Hospital, Peterborough, by Doctor N.A. Ross.

	<u>Males</u>		<u>Females</u>
Mondays	5.00 - 6.00 p.m.	Tuesdays	10.30 - 11.30 a.m.
Wednesdays	5.30 - 6.30 p.m.	Thursdays	4.30 - 5.30 p.m.

## The Public Health Service Board Laboratory Facilities

The Public Health Laboratory, situated at the Peterborough District Hospital, provides us with a fully comprehensive bacteriological service, under the control of Doctor E.J.G. Glencross. I would like to acknowledge gratefully the ever ready help and courtesy which Doctor Glencross and his staff have extended to us throughout another year. Brucellosis investigations have thrown much additional work upon them and were cheerfully accepted though the work of control is long, arduous and often unrewarding.

## The Family Planning Association

This Clinic is held at Barnhill, Stamford and provides a welcome service to married people wishing to plan their families. At it advice is given on methods of contraception and medical help with sexual problems and advice in cases of sterility and sub-fertility. Twenty-five sessions were held during the year and a total of 180 patients attended, of whom 76 were new to Family Planning Clinics and forty were inward transfers from other Clinics.

The Clinic is held by Dr. M.G. Orrell of Stamford. A band of voluntary workers have assisted and to them I wish to express a keen appreciation of their help.

Cervical smears are taken as part of the medical examination where these are considered advisable, and during the year 127 smears were taken, of which two required follow-up treatment.

The Sessions are held:

First Tuesday in each month	2.00 p.m. - 3.45 p.m.
Second Tuesday in each month	7.00 p.m. - 8.45 p.m.
Third Tuesday in each month	7.00 p.m. - 8.45 p.m.

Patients must have appointments for their first attendance and applications should be made to Mrs. Achurch of Ryhall, Honorary Secretary, Family Planning Association, Barnhill House, Stamford. Telephone No.

Stamford 2906, either by telephoning during the above clinic hours or by letter to the above address. Interested persons from any part of the Rural District are welcome to attend.

### Children's Department

The Area Child Care Officer for South Kesteven, Miss Hodgson, assisted by Mrs. Newall, have their headquarters at St. George's Street, Stamford. Telephone No. Stamford 3011.

A Family Advice Centre is open on Fridays from 2.30 p.m. to 4.30 p.m. to give advice on and help with all social problems involving children and young persons.

A Play Centre for deprived children is held once a week on Thursdays, at the Kings Mill Centre at Stamford and provides a welcome break for both mothers and children. It is staffed by volunteers from the W.R.V.S. and the Women's Institutes and is dependant on Voluntary help and Finance.

### Registrar of Births, Deaths and Marriages

Mrs. L. Culpin, Registrar, No. 1 Burghley Street, Bourne. Telephone Number Bourne 2269.

#### Office Hours:-

Monday	)	
Tuesday	)	10.00 a.m. - 11.30 a.m.
Wednesday	)	
Thursday		10.00 a.m. - 11.30 a.m. 2.00 p.m. - 4.00 p.m.
Friday		10.00 a.m. - 11.30 a.m.
Saturday		9.00 a.m. - 10.30 a.m.

### SECTION C.

#### SANITARY AND ENVIRONMENTAL CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE AREA

The Public Water Supply is available potentially to 95 per cent of the population in the District. During 1969 more than three and a half miles of new mains were laid and many new connections were completed. A survey was carried out during the year and from this it emerged that there are still however some 350 properties supplied by shallow wells and private bores.

I am most grateful to Mr. N.A. Eagles, Engineer and Manager of the South Lincolnshire Water Board and also to Mr. D. Reeson the Clerk of that Authority for their ever ready help and co-operation throughout the year. There has also since the birth of the Board been a keen spirit of mutual goodwill between our two Authorities and for this reason the writer felt

much honoured to be appointed first medical adviser to the Water Board. There is no doubt that this will assist still further in welding the link between those who supply the water and the consumer.

Our thanks are due to Mr. Eagles for his report on the year's achievements:

1. "The total quantity of water supplied to the Rural District during the year from the sources at Bourne, Billingborough and Wilsthorpe was 285,934,000 gallons which is an increase of 19,136,000 gallons (7.2%) on the 1968 figure. The average daily quantity supplied was 783,000 gallons which represents a consumption of 51.5 gallons per head per day.
2. "Regular weekly samples of water from the source works were submitted for bacteriological examination, all with satisfactory results.
3. "The lengths and diameters of the various mains laid in the Rural District during the year are shown in the following table:

<u>Location</u>	<u>Yards</u>					
	1"	2"	3"	4"	6"	Total
Fen Road, Sempringham	-	-	3,175	-	-	3,175
New Road, Deeping St. James	-	-	350	-	-	350
Carlton Estate, Deeping St. James	-	-	124	368	-	492
Station Road, Deeping St. James.	-	-	-	-	302	302
Hanthorpe Road, Morton	-	-	150	-	-	150
Oseby Road, Birthorpe	-	-	194	-	-	194
Holywell Road, Carlby	-	230	-	-	-	230
Laughton Lodge Farm, Aslackby	700	-	-	-	-	700
School Lane, Aslackby	-	-	137	-	-	137
Godsey Lane, Market Deeping	-	-	540	66	-	606
Greatford Road, Uffington	-	-	100	-	-	100
Gosdale Road, Pointon	-	67	-	-	-	67
Glen Close, Little Bytham	-	-	14	-	-	14
Braceborough Bridge	-	-	56	-	-	56
TOTALS	700	297	4,840	434	302	6,573

The following table shows the variation in the number of domestic services in each parish of the Rural District during the year:-

<u>Parish</u>	<u>Services</u>	<u>Parish</u>	<u>Services</u>
Aslackby & Laughton	-	Horbling	+ 26
Barholm & Stowe	-	Irnham	-
Baston	+ 2	Kirkby Underwood	-
Billingborough	+ 2	Langtoft	+ 7
Braceborough & Wilsthorpe	+ 2	Little Bytham	+ 4
Careby, Aunby & Holywell	+ 1	Market Deeping	+ 82
Carlby	+ -	Morton	+ 5
Castle Bytham	- 4	Pointon & Sempringham	-
Corby Glen	- 1	Rippingale	+ 1
Counthorpe & Creeton	-	Swayfield	+ 4
Deeping St. James	+ 34	Swinstead	+ 1
Dowsby	-	Tallington	+ 2
Dunsby	-	Thurlby	+ 24
Edenham	-	Toft, Lound & Manthorpe	+ 2
Folkingham	-	Uffington	+ 1
Greatford	+ 1	West Deeping	- 1
Haconby	-	Witham-on-the-Hill	-

The resulting total increase in the number of domestic services in the Rural District was 196."

At the request of the Ministry a typical sample of the mains water supply is given below:-

<u>TYPICAL CHEMICAL ANALYSIS</u> <u>Tap on Bore, Wilsthorpe</u> <u>Pumping Station</u>	
	<u>Parts per Million</u>
pH	7.2
Chlorine present as Chloride	24
Hardness:	390
Carbonate	220
Non Carbonate	170
Nitrate Nitrogen	4.6
Nitrite Nitrogen	Absent
Ammoniacal Nitrogen	0.00
Albuminoid Nitrogen	0.00
Oxygen Absorbed	0.20
Free Carbon Dioxide	30
Dissolved Solids dried at 180° C.	480
Alkalinity as Calcium Carbonate	220
Residual Chlorine	...
Fluoride (F)	0.10
Electric Conductivity	670
Metals:	
Iron	Absent
Zinc	Absent
Copper	Absent
Lead	Absent

"This sample is clear and bright in appearance, neutral in reaction and free from iron and other metals. The water is very hard in character though not excessively so, it contains no excess of mineral constituents and it is of very satisfactory organic quality.

From the aspect of the chemical analysis these results are indicative

of a pure and wholesome water suitable for public supply purposes".

Sampling of the waters was regularly pursued throughout the year and copies of all reports on bacteriological samples submitted to the Public Health Laboratory by the Water Board were received, as well as samples submitted by our own Health Department.

The Raw Water from the Wilsthorpe bore - which is a main source of supply to the Southern area of the District and to the City of Peterborough is watched carefully. It is normally of the highest bacteriological quality but occasionally shows slight pollution, most probably derived from a source upon the catchment area of the Lincolnshire Limestone which riddled as it is with swallow holes is all too vulnerable in this respect.

During the period 37 samples were taken and of these six showed pollution. These in the main were after the rainy season early in the year.

The extensive flooding which occurred in 1968 was fortunately not repeated this year but there were again limited episodes as at Aslackby in May.

All the sources of water have their origins in the Lincolnshire Limestone Catchment area with its maze of underground natural reservoirs. These waters emerge under pressure, are very heavily charged with Carbonate and so are extremely hard. Fortunately there are no plumbo-solvent characteristics in such waters.

Several surveys have taken place this year. The first of these arose through a complaint of green staining on a bath in a house which had had a new plumbing system installed. This was in fact found to be due to the reaction between a copper and a galvanised pipe used in the same system through the marrying of the original to the new. A galvanic current was set up which caused a slight deposit of copper on the bath. A survey of other houses in the same area showed a rise in the copper content, in the domestic supplies, not, however it must be stressed, to a dangerous degree but markedly above the mains water in which there is no trace. It was found that the water mains were used by electrical contractors for earthing the domestic electricity supplies and that in the presence of "mixed plumbing" this could give rise to trouble. In fact it was possible to demonstrate a swing on a galvanometer due to the passage of weak electric currents. This earthing procedure should not be countenanced. So far as the Water Board are concerned when in the course of repair work they introduce P.V.C. piping, the owner of the property is informed, as unknowingly earthing of his electrical gadgets might be invalidated and it is his duty to fit properly a "trip" device. The copper content of water derived from the hot water system was as expected always higher than was that direct from the mains supply.

The other survey consisted of looking into the nitrate content of shallow wells, used as a source of domestic supply. It is a medical hazard for babies to consume water with a high nitrate content. This can cause Methaemaglobinanaemia in which the Oxygen carrying element in the blood is knocked out as it is in coal gas poisoning and fatalities have occurred from this cause. With the ever increasing use of quick acting nitrate fertilisers with high solubility rates it was felt that shallow wells could be potentially at risk. This seemed most likely to be maximal at the spring sowing season and after rain. The fact proved to be the case in the first two wells from which several samples over a period were taken. The figures rose from 20 parts per million to 60 parts per million. The World Health Organisation recommends that the figure of 45 parts per million should not be exceeded. Accordingly the occupants were informed that no water from this source should be used for making up baby feeds and that water for this purpose should be obtained from a Service Mains. It is pleasing to report that as a result of these investigations and their implications that a water mains extension has now been laid to the cottages concerned and one more hazard abolished. It is hoped eventually to carry out similar work throughout the District.

Mr. Maxfield's enthusiastic and vigorous efforts in the fields of both these investigations are worthy of full acknowledgement and indeed made them possible at all. Further details will appear in his review. Suffice it to say that it is our duty to follow up any possible environmental hazard with the same dedication that Chadwick did a hundred years ago in respect of Infectious Disease control.

No excess of lead was discovered.

Fluoride is only present in trace amounts of 0.10 parts per million except in the water derived from the Tallington Source where it is 0.30 parts per million which is just about a third of what is regarded as the optimum figure for the prevention of dental caries. The Ministry of Health are advocating as strongly as ever, as are all the Medical and Dental organisations, that Public Water Supplies should be artificially fluoridated to this end; but the protestors are still vocal with their propaganda against so called mass medication. Strangely they never object to the presence of the other Halogen, Chlorine, being put in the same medium for their protection !

There was a proposal this year that milk instead of water should be fluoridated as this it was argued would allow for infant and welfare and school milk to contain it, but not that destined for other consumers. This would not appear to be a valid alternative as there would be a far smaller safety margin quite apart from the technical difficulties attendant on it. A proposal to extract from and return to the Lincolnshire Limestone via the Coggles Brook and so into the vulnerable swallow hole area up to three quarters of a million gallons of water a day was strongly discouraged with it is hoped success. The water would have been used for the industrial purpose of vegetable processing and would have had a high chemical content

on discharge, which could in the long term have had a deleterious effect on the under ground supplies by causing salination. Is it not time that large industrial users of water conserved water by treating it themselves and using it over and over again, as it seems most wasteful of this valuable natural resource to use it just once and then throw it away.

This year has shown another forward leap in the consumption of water for as Mr. Eagles has shown, the total has gone up from 266,798,000 gallons in 1968 to 285,934,000 gallons in 1969, and the gallonage per head per day from 45 to 51.5.

All of this has to be treated and so the magnitude of the task of Sewage Disposal can be visualised. At the same time River Boards are rightly insisting on better final effluents and upon standards considerably more stringent than those of the now ancient Royal Commission on sewage disposal. Provision for both increased consumption and more rigorous demands in treatment must now be built into the design of all future works. The Deeping St. James works are consistently overloaded but still contrive to produce a good effluent. This is no small testimony to the painstaking care of those at the Disposal works and the constant checking which goes on at the laboratory of the chemistry at various stages of the purification process.

To ensure that all the works are functioning at the maximum chemical efficiency is Mr. Maxfield's prime consideration.

He reports as follows:-

#### "The Laboratory

After initial training, the Assistant Chemist Mr. G. Herd appointed in February, 1969, proved to be a very important factor in the wider scope of work carried out in the Laboratory. Mr. Herd's resignation in October of the same year came as a disappointment and at a time when a considerable amount of extra work had been undertaken. It was most fortunate that the position was quickly taken by Miss J. Atkin, who has proved to be a most willing and enthusiastic Assistant.

The testing and evaluation of a chemical method of determining a good approximation of the B.O.D. value of waste waters has been carried out during the year. We now have an "Early Warning" method of analysis which can be completed in about 3 hours and enables, with a fair degree of accuracy, to assess the B.O.D. value of any particular sewage or sewage effluent. This can and has been a big asset since the B.O.D. test requires a 5 day incubation period during which time a sewage works effluent may rapidly deteriorate. The Chemical Oxygen Demand as it is called enables immediate action to be taken in the event of a declining effluent with the minimum of delay.

## Sewage Treatment Works

### Corby Glen

The severe frost encountered in February, 1969, led to the deterioration in Effluent quality due to frozen distributors and the formation of some 4" of ice on the final humus tanks causing "Thermal Inversion" and discharge of excess suspended solids.

It was decided that some form of recirculation would prevent reoccurrence of this problem by increasing the liquid flow through the system. Also, since the usual plant operator was taken ill and the works had to be manned by an attendant sent from Lound Depot every day, causing the works to be unattended for extra periods of time, some method of preventing sludge build up had to be devised. The method adopted was one of continuous withdrawal of Humus from the tanks sufficient to provide a small degree of recirculation and at the same time prevent sludge accumulation. The final effect has been extremely satisfactory since it is now found that the humus tanks rarely require desludging in the more conventional manner and can be left for considerable periods unattended. The degree of recirculation has not increased the electricity consumption by any significant amount.

The Effluent quality has been excellent throughout the year and at times has been of a better quality than many rivers in the area.

### Deeping St. James

In spite of the degree of overloading at this plant the effluent from the Biological Filters has, for the most part of the year, been quite satisfactory.

Volumetric overloading of the Humus tanks has on several occasions caused excess amounts of suspended solids to be discharged with the Effluent although the "Clarifier" installed in one of the tanks has no doubt helped to keep this to a minimum.

The time when the works are extended and modernised to deal with the widely expanding population served by the existing plant will come as a great relief to all concerned, especially the plant attendants who have a most difficult task to deal with. These men have been instrumental in keeping the works functioning under very difficult circumstances with a great deal of success.

### Horbling

The Effluent produced by this plant has been highly satisfactory throughout the year even though the extensions in operation there have led to some unavoidable difficulties from time to time.

The construction of the new plant and especially the nightsoil reception tanks will no doubt go a long way in preventing the possibility of pollution due to nightsoil dumping in highly unsatisfactory circumstances.

The eventual commissioning of this new plant is awaited with enthusiasm by all and it is sincerely hoped that the effluent quality will be as satisfactory as the old works has produced in the past. This Laboratory will be following the performance of the plant with interest throughout the initial phases, especially that of the nightsoil disposal plant, as this is a somewhat unusual feature in normal sewage works design.

#### Private Water Supplies - Nitrate Content and Methaemaglobinanaemia

It is known that feeds made up from water containing excessive amounts of nitrate salts can cause Methaemaglobinanaemia in infants although growing children and adults are not affected. Because of this the World Health Organisation have set a limit of 45 mg/l of  $\text{NO}_3$  on potable waters with a rider that 10 mg/l may be significant.

On examining a private water supply derived from a spring surrounded by agricultural land it was found that the nitrate content of the water dramatically increased some two months after the land had been seeded and fertilised. Obviously the weather conditions, source of supply and lie of the land are vital factors in this type of pollution and the time between the application of artificial fertilisers and appearance of nitrates in the water depends on all of these.

As a result of the work done on this particular source of water a full survey of the whole South Kesteven Rural District Council and Bourne Urban District Council area private water supplies was undertaken. This has proved to be quite a formidable task, but a complete check of private water supplies in the Bourne Urban District Council area has been carried out and a good number of supplies in the South Kesteven Rural District Council area.

From the results of these analyses it is intended to follow closely particular supplies after the annual ritual of artificial fertiliser application in 1970 to confirm their pollution on certain sources of water supply.

A particularly interesting and perhaps disturbing factor involved in this type of pollution is that if water supplies are being affected to any great extent by the fertilisers put on the land can the same type of pollution occur with the multitude of pesticides, herbicides and other extremely toxic preparations used in farming today ?

Since the analysis of water for these organo-chlorine and organo-phosphorous compounds involves extremely expensive modern instruments the more simple detection of nitrates in water supplies could be used as an indicator in a similar manner to which bacteriological analyses are carried

out.

The final results of this survey are awaited with extreme interest.

### Copper in Domestic Water Supply

A complaint regarding the build up of a blue-green scale on a kettle element was investigated at the request of the Public Health Department. The scale was found to contain appreciable quantities of Copper.

Investigation of the public water supply gave a negative result for copper but the water at the consumers tap had a significant copper content.

It was subsequently found that the domestic copper services were connected to a galvanised feed from the public mains and galvanic corrosion of the copper was taking place.

The introduction of a polythene pipe to separate the galvanised from the copper service had very little effect in reducing the problem. It was then subsequently found that although the earth system of the electrical installation was dealt with by an earth leakage trip, a connection to the water supply pipe had been left on and connected to the trip also. The use of a micro-ammeter showed that there was a current flowing through this earth wire to the copper service and thence via the water to earth, the water having a fairly high conductivity.

Removal of this earth completely solved the problem and within a few weeks the copper content of the water supply was well within acceptable limits.

It would appear from this case that where high copper contents are found in domestic water supplies it is not sufficient to insulate the copper service from the feed but all electrical earth connections should also be removed and where not fitted an earth leakage trip installed.

The adoption of polythene service pipes used by the Water Board may accentuate the problem and a hazard could occur where domestic services are used for earthing purposes and these are connected to polythene mains; but the Water Board do inform all householders when such work is carried out.

### Miscellaneous

Various analyses have been undertaken by the Laboratory and included Swimming Pool water, Gas leakage into soil, soil analyses, oil analyses, various watercourse samples, investigation of trade effluents, river samples and various public water supply samples.

Each case is a story in itself and too detailed to be included in this type of report. However the Laboratory is now capable of undertaking almost any type of analytical work in relation to water pollution, water pollution

control and public health work with the exception of bacteriological analysis which is so very well carried out at the Peterborough Public Health Laboratory.

I would like to thank all my colleagues in the Health Department for their help and co-operation in many problems and to thank Miss J. Atkin who has very quickly adapted herself to the work and has given invaluable assistance since taking up her post."

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Both the Medical Officer of Health and the Chemist were invited to submit written evidence to and be members of the Sewage Disposal Sub-Committee of the Rural District Councils Association which was to make recommendations to the Working Party set up by the Ministry of Housing and Local Government on this important subject. This accordingly was done and the final outcome of the deliberations is awaited with interest.

How much longer will a Nightsoil collection have to be provided for those parishes which have been given modern sewage disposal systems ?  
Pail closets are still being emptied in such parishes as follows:-

Billinghamborough	8
Horbling	1
Corby Glen	3
Baston	7
Langtoft	10
Market Deeping	9
Deeping St. James	24
Thurlby	8
Haconby	10
Morton and Hanthorpe	11
Uffington	11

It is time also to consider whether residential caravans where there are water toilets on the site should continue to have their Elsan Closets serviced. In Market Deeping there are 101 of these.

It does seem an anachronism in 1970 with an array of V.H.F. television aerials on the chimney pots to have the Nightsoil vehicle standing outside the front door.

The only public toilets provided by the Council are at Stamford Road, Market Deeping. In this expanding area there is a real need for an additional one on the other side of town. It is to be hoped that the project for a purpose built roadside toilet at Tallington will not be shelved indefinitely as it would be a great boon to the travelling public.

A fortnightly domestic refuse collection from the house door is provided. This has within its limitations functioned well. It has however been the

subject of repeated criticism from many sources on its infrequency.

The decision of the Council therefore to increase the Service to a once a week collection was heard with great satisfaction. This should end the possibility of the bin contents decomposing and becoming highly objectionable in hot weather, fly breeding and other nuisance arising. The contents of the bin are now such as to render burning of the surplus an unsatisfactory alternative and likely to give rise to nuisance to the neighbours and add further to the atmospheric pollution which has been allowed to proceed for far too long. The refuse collectors must at times have had a most unpleasant burden. This is an excellent time to pay tribute to the work which the refuse freighter crews do in all weathers and in all places. It is little enough to ask the Public to assist them in every way and in particular by using only standard bins and never cardboard boxes and other containers which are liable to discharge their contents all over the unfortunate collector.

The method of disposal is by tipping at five tips located at strategic points within the area. Every effort is made to avoid nuisances and soil covering is effected as money and time permit. It must be stressed that true controlled tipping which consists of tipping on a small face and covering this face and the top with soil at the end of each tipping operation is impossible to achieve without a large expenditure of time, money, manpower and large quantities of soil cover. One day the proposition of a central destructor plant with a unit to consume its own smoke will have to be considered as and when the present tipping sites become filled and alternatives become impossible of acquisition.

The illicit tipping at Billingborough has been largely curtailed by the security arrangements which the Surveyor took last year. This tip is very close to the Secondary Modern School so that a very tight control over it has had to be maintained. This like all the sites is subjected to regular rodent and fly control measures.

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The Mortuary at Stamford Hospital provides facilities for all calls upon this service from the Coroner, the Police and the Pathologist.

Additionally arrangements with the Management Committee of St. Peter's Hospital, Bourne, provides for the use of their mortuary to meet an exceptional local need.

The Burial Grounds in the various parishes all have adequate provision for interments for the foreseeable future.

The nearest Crematoria are at Marholm on the North-Western outskirts of Peterborough and at Grantham. Ever increasing use is being made of this alternative to burial.

No Statutory nuisances were reported or brought to light during the year.

As one travels around the area it is clear that the scavanging is not up to the standards which prevailed some years ago during the era of the village sweepers. There are strict limitations on what a mechanical sweeper can achieve as is patently obvious. It is up to members of the public to frown harshly on those who contribute in any way to the litter problem and draw the responsible person's attention to their misdemeanour when they do see a breach of the anti-litter code.

#### SECTION D

#### HOUSING

Number of Council houses completed in 1969	-	44
Number of Council houses under construction at 31st December, 1969	-	7
Plus the conversion of two houses and one shop at Corby Glen into four houses		
Number of Private houses under construction at 31st December, 1969	-	143
Number of Private houses completed in 1969	-	220

It will be seen that the Council houses completed this year fell from 66 in the previous one, due in some measure to high building costs.

Private enterprise however did better with 220 to its credit in spite of phenomenally high interest and Mortgage rates but it was obvious these were having their effect, as the total under construction at the year's end were over a hundred less than at the same time in 1968. There certainly is no lessening in the need and desire for new homes, which remain as great as ever.

Three hundred and four names were on the waiting list for Council houses at the end of the year. Of these one hundred and two were from applicants living outside the area but anxious to return to it for family or previous connection reasons. This was a decrease of sixty seven over the figure for 1968.

Of the total of 304, no fewer than 131 were for bungalow or ground floor accommodation. At forty three per cent of the total this reiterates again the insistent pressure on and demand for this type of home.

Based on the facts revealed in the sample census of 1966 it is estimated that there is a total of 1935 persons - 775 male and 1160 female - over 65 years of age in this District. Many of them will come forward for consideration one day.

In traditional housing the demand is for post war types, or at least for those which have been modernised to the main features of the Parker

<u>DETAILS OF APPLICATIONS ON THE COUNCIL'S HOUSING LIST</u>				
<u>Village</u>	<u>Houses</u>	<u>Bungalows</u>	<u>Total</u>	<u>From Outside District</u>
Aslackby and Laughton	-	1	1	1
Barholm and Stowe	-	-	-	-
Baston	11	2	13	6
Billingborough	9	13	22	5
Braceborough and Wilsthorpe	-	-	-	-
Castle Bytham	9	4	13	8
Little Bytham	1	3	4	1
Careby, Aunby and Holywell	-	-	-	-
Carlby	5	1	6	5
Corby Glen	11	6	17	4
Counthorpe and Creeton	-	-	-	-
Deeping St. James	28	25	53	19
Market Deeping	49	20	69	26
West Deeping	3	1	4	-
Dowsby	4	-	4	-
Dunsby	-	-	-	-
Edenham	-	-	-	-
Folkingham	3	5	8	5
Greatford	-	1	1	-
Haconby	4	6	10	-
Horbaling	2	3	5	2
Irnham	-	-	-	-
Kirkby Underwood	-	-	-	-
Langtoft	3	1	4	1
Morton	14	6	20	10
Pointon and Sempringham	3	4	7	1
Rippingale	-	3	3	-
Swayfield	2	1	3	-
Swinstead	-	8	8	-
Tallington	4	1	5	2
Thurlby	4	1	5	2
Toft, Lound and Manthorpe	-	-	-	-
Uffington	4	11	15	4
Witham-on-the-Hill	-	4	4	-
TOTALS	173	131	304	102

The Council do not operate a Points System but the waiting list for each individual Parish is subjected to detailed scrutiny by the Parish Representatives and the most deserving are short listed. Each applicant on the short list has his need investigated and the complete picture is presented by the Housing Manager to the Housing Estates Committee when a house or bungalow comes up for allocation within that Parish.

Additionally all claims for priority, where there are grounds of ill health or Socio-Medical reasons, are subjected to a full investigation and a visit by the writer before a submission is made to the appropriate Committee and these are always most helpfully and sympathetically received. There were twenty such cases during the year. In all of this work the full co-operation of the Housing Manager, Mr. N. Kirk, is always available and the care which he gives to each case is the best assurance of successful rehousing.

It is ludicrous that the Seeborn Committee proposals should ever hope to better the close equation of rehousing to need which this system has ensured for many years past. It cannot be imagined how large Authorities, as at present envisaged, could ever hope to have the local and personal knowledge or the time to devote to the needs of the individual and his personal problems. The housing applicant will become a very impersonal number on an impersonal list. Perish the thought!

No case of Statutory overcrowding came to light during the year.

There are no common lodging houses within the area.

In the sphere of Council owned properties there are 88 which have no water closets and are devoid of hot water systems and of these 48 are without baths. This is a fall of seventeen and thirteen respectively from the previous year. The situation of these by Parishes is as follows:-

<u>Parish</u>	<u>Without water closets or hot water systems</u>	<u>Without Baths</u>
Castle Bytham	26	16
Creeton	8	4
Greatford	8	0
Kirkby Underwood	8	4
Pointon	16	8
Rippingale	22	16

The steady progress in the modernisation of the older Council houses which has been a feature of recent years continued. A further 26 houses will be converted in the 1970/71 programme - 16 at Pointon, 6 at Castle Bytham and 4 at Kirkby Underwood.

I wish to thank Mr. Harvey, our Surveyor for the information which he has so willingly given me.

A Grouped Bungalow Scheme in Horbling consisting of 18 bungalows, 8 flats and the Warden's was completed during the year and fully tenanted at its end. This Community like its sister one at Deeping St. James has been most successful. Allowing for the idiosyncrasies of some individuals and the profound changes brought about by coming to live amidst modern gadgetry with which they were unfamiliar in their former homes, the occupants have settled down together very well.

The baths about two thirds the size of standard ones do not suit all individuals and disabilities. The bather should not drown in the permitted depth of water! In the case of disabled persons there is little room at the side for anyone to help them bath and the pole intended for support is strangely positioned and probably would serve a more useful purpose in assisting someone off the toilet. It is hoped excellent though they are in many respects that they will not be made de rigueur in all Grouped Dwelling Schemes.

The all artificial fibre carpeting and furnishings of the Common Room gave rise in the dry warmth to the build up of static electricity to an extent of operating the trip and putting out the lights and occasioning minor shocks. This was overcome by spraying the Carpet surfaces appropriately and there was no further trouble.

The social activities of both groups have brought great happiness and companionship to many of their residents and this Community Spirit has been fostered most assiduously by the Wardens and their Deputies. On them of course, so much of the success of these schemes ultimately depend. The one roomed bed/sits have a very limited appeal and quite understandably so.

It is pleasant to record that a further Group consisting of twenty-two units and the usual Warden's house and Common Room has been planned for Thurlby and this is sure to be a most popular situation as it will be at the heart of the District. It is unfortunate that Common Room space may be less generous than at Toller Court as it is hoped the Group will last a long time!

This Council has a Post War house building tally of 1099 dwellings completed and a record in both this and housing administration of which they have every right to be proud.

## SECTION E.

## INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD

There are three licensed slaughterhouses in the District and these together with that at Bourne have continued to serve the public adequately. During the year, as envisaged in last year's review the Stamford abattoir closed down but any gap was quickly filled from other resources.

A hundred per cent meat inspection has been maintained. The standard of the carcasses remains high as has been customary in recent years.

In the Report of the Chief Public Health Inspector (Mr. W. Chivers) all the painstaking work which he and his staff do to ensure that the Food Hygiene Regulations are fully understood and observed is fully recorded.

There remains just a few points to elaborate.

Milk is of inestimable importance in the nutrition of the young, the elderly and the invalid and so it must be safeguarded from contamination and infection by every possible means. Again this year the problem of Brucellosis raised its head. In the previous one a Pasteurisation Order was served on the owner of a dairy herd from which the milk was farm bottled and sold without being heat treated. After taking 479 milk samples the conditions for lifting this Order were fulfilled in May 1968. Continuous supervisory sampling was instituted and a further 143 samples were taken this year and in each case submitted to Ring and Culture Tests. In no case was anything found on which action was indicated. Then out of the blue though not a notifiable disease I found out that a man had contracted Undulant fever - the human manifestation of Brucellosis - from the same suspect source. It happened however that during the interim period whilst these results were in the pipeline that the likely source disappeared for the dairy stock concerned were sold. Where they went to carrying their Brucellosis with them I have no idea. The Ministry of Health and Social Security still do not want to know anything about human Brucellosis otherwise they would have accepted this Council's request to make it a Notifiable Disease. Herds under suspicion can still be broken up without let or hindrance, increasing the problem accordingly. Contacts in fact go free. Over the years thousands of milk samples were taken but only on one occasion (1968) was there the Statutory evidence necessary to take action under the Milk and Dairy Regulations.

All this goes to show how fantastically difficult it is to eradicate Brucellosis from a herd though the full co-operation of the farmer, the veterinary surgeon and the Health Department and Public Health Laboratory were mobilised, so long as it is not a self contained one. It also highlights the often repeated warning that from the human consumer's point of view only a heat treated milk is a safe milk.

The Public should also exercise the same discretion when purchasing and consuming cream with their strawberries or other sweet! On occasions those who have enjoyed "farmhouse teas" where raw milk has been consumed have paid

dearly in Brucellosis coinage. Enjoy your cream but be careful about its history.

To answer the problem the Ministry amble on unhurryingly with their Voluntary Eradication Scheme. Of the 223 Registered Dairy herds in Kesteven, only 42 were fully accredited by the end of 1969 and a further 45 were undergoing qualifying tests. On a National basis only six per cent of dairy herds in the Country are Brucella free.

The taking of milk samples for penicillin contamination also continued and this was proven in 26 cases in a series of 4130 samples taken at a large dairy which is involved in our milk supplies or from milk in the course of delivery. Pasteurisation does not remove this antibiotic if it is already present in it.

There are no sample results for pesticidal residues in the period though this again is a problem which must be kept under continuing review.

Maybe the answer to all of these problems will lie in the rapidly developing fields of synthetic food technology. There is already in this Country a pilot plant which can turn a ton of brussel sprouts, peas, plant tops or even grass into 200 gallons of synthetic milk known as PLAMIL. The process is even easier if soya bean is used as the starting point. No animal could ever equal this conversion figure of practically a ton for a ton, so perhaps the traditional suppliers of milk will have to take note! In the West there is already a plant in operation which produces synthetic meat.

The protein from Soya beans, is extracted and forced through a series of spinnerettes into a coagulating bath, from which it emerges as threads. The size of and tension on the spinnerette determine the toughness or tenderness. Next the protein is passed through a bath of fat, flavouring material and dyes. These are varied depending on whether beef, mutton, chicken, pork, bacon or fish is required and finally knitted together and the final products comes in slices, rashers or mince. The prospect is not a thrilling one but who can obstruct technological advances, such as has happened with margarine since its first invention exactly one hundred years ago. A similar plant is also operational in France starting with oil instead of the Soya bean!

I would like to express a warm appreciation to the Chief Public Health Inspector (Mr. W. Chivers) and his staff and also to Dr. Glencross of the Peterborough Public Health Laboratory for all the work they have done this year in safeguarding the Public and their food from contamination.

Mr. Lofthouse, County Public Health Inspector states that from this district, sixteen samples of Pasteurised milk were submitted to the Methylene Blue and Phosphatase tests for bacterial quality and efficiency of pasteurisation and these were found to be satisfactory. Two samples of sterilised milk examined were also found to be satisfactory.

Twelve samples of untreated milk were submitted to the Methylene Blue test and of these, one sample obtained from the north of the District failed to satisfy the test.

Examinations were also carried out on the untreated milk samples for Tubercle bacilli and Brucellosis and examination for the presence of antibiotics was undertaken on five of the untreated samples. The results of all these examinations proved to be satisfactory.

In his valuable and always most interesting contribution to this report Mr. Hawley, Chief Inspector of Weights and Measures of the County states that fifty two samples were taken under the provisions of the Food and Drugs Act, 1955. These were as follows:-

Biscuits	2
Curry Powder	1
Milk	47
Tasty Grill	1
Tomato Puree	1

He comments on certain of the samples.

Although Kesteven is not primarily a milk-producing County it does, nevertheless produce very good milk; mostly for domestic consumption.

The Statutory minima for milk are that it shall contain not less than three per cent fat and 8.5 per cent other solids or in the case of Channel Island milk at least 4 per cent of fat. While there is always a variation between morning's and evening's milk it is the average that matters.

Under the compositioned quality scheme, the Milk Marketing Board adds or subtracts from the basic price per gallon for variations above or below the National norm of 12 per cent total solids. All but two of the samples were satisfactory. A dairyman in the north of the district was cautioned in writing when it was discovered that his Channel Islands milk contained only 3.6 per cent butter fat. This dairyman has now gone out of business.

A dairy farmer in the west of the district was found to be selling milk which was low in solids - not fat: the presumption being that it might have been watered. However "appeal" samples taken at the farm the following day showed that the deficiency was due to natural causes. The High Court case of Hunt versus Richardson has decided that in these circumstances, the producer is relieved of the responsibility to comply with the presumptive standards laid down in the Sale of Milk Regulations.

As this is centenary year for Margarine, Mr. Hawley commented as follows:-

"In a way, butter and margarine represent the "natural and the sophisticated" in foods, for butter is a pure high-energy food made from the

fat of cows' milk, while margarine is one of the earliest food substitutes. It was invented by a French food chemist Hippolyte Mege-Mouries but made little headway in this Country until early in the Century. Its special virtues are now recognised. These include a nutritional value equal to that of butter, attractive appearance and easy spreadability over a wide temperature range.

Both products are governed by Regulations but while Butter Regulations insist on the exclusive use of Cows' milk, the Margarine Regulations permit a wide choice of edible oils or fats but not more than 10% butter fat. Butter is naturally rich in vitamins A and D, but these are added in the case of margarine."

In the light of the controversy followed by the ban on cyclamates his comments are topical.

"The British Public's acquaintance with cyclamates is comparatively short-lived, for it was only two years ago that the Food Additives and Contaminants Committee gave cautious approval to these highly complex substances. Their approval led to the Artificial Sweeteners in Food Regulations, 1967. Now, as from 1st January, 1970, the use of cyclamate sweeteners in food and soft drinks has been banned. A "volte face" is always something of a jolt, but not everyone will know that the committee which approved the use of cyclamates in 1967 did say that any Regulations permitting their use should be reviewed within 5 years and that, in the meantime, long-term feeding studies on rats and mice should be undertaken by the Ministry. Furthermore, the committee advised that a full toxicological examination of cyclohexylamine (the carcinogenous suspect in cyclamates) should be completed within 3 years. While it is disturbing, therefore, to know that modern methods of food "sophistication" introduce these hazards, it is also reassuring to find that such care is taken to limit their incidence.

Saccharin continues as a permitted artificial sweetener, but it must now be declared on the label by name and not under the pseudonym of "permitted artificial sweetener". Apart from the trading interests, the persons who will be most concerned by these changes are the diabetic and the obese, for both of whom saccharin may be an unwelcome alternative. Saccharin is a coal-tar derivative which enjoys comparative immunity from criticism, but it has an after-taste which many people find unpleasant. It is however, a very much better sweetener, for it is 500 times as sweet as sugar (bulk for bulk) whereas cyclamates are only about 30 times as sweet."

There are at present over 3,000 known additives to our food and these are kept under constant review for safety of consumption and for side effects.

It is well that the Health and the Food and Drugs Authorities maintain an ever vigilant eye so that the Public can buy in safety the good fruits of this Earth, even after man has manipulated and sophisticated them.

It amazes me that after all the meticulous care which goes into the production, collection and distribution of milk that it should end up in a bottle on the ground at the front or back door and be subjected to possible surface contamination by every passing dog, cat or bird that way inclined!

## SECTION F.

THE PREVENTION AND CONTROL OF  
INFECTIOUS AND OTHER DISEASES

ANALYSIS OF CASES OF INFECTIOUS DISEASE  
UNDER AGE GROUPS

	Scarlet Fever	Leptospirosis	Puerperal Pyrexia	Pneumonia	Ophthalmia Neonatorum	Cerebro Spinal Fever	Measles	Whooping Cough	Erysipelas	Dysentery	Acute Encephalitis	Infective Hepatitis
0-1	-	-	-	-	-	-	3	-	-	-	-	-
1-2	3	-	-	-	-	-	17	-	-	-	-	-
2-3	1	-	-	-	-	-	20	-	-	-	-	-
3-4	-	-	-	-	-	-	20	-	-	-	-	-
4-5	5	-	-	-	-	-	22	-	-	-	-	-
5-10	20	-	-	-	-	-	87	1	-	-	-	-
10-15	17	-	-	-	-	-	8	-	-	-	-	-
15-20	5	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
20-35	1	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
35-45	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
45-65	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
65 & over	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Age Un-known	-	-	-	-	-	-	4	-	-	-	-	-
TOTALS	52	1	-	-	-	-	181	1	-	-	-	-
Admitted to Hospital	-	1	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-

After the very low figure of twenty four recorded cases of Infectious Disease in 1968, the tally this year rose to two hundred and thirty five. This was due to the expected biennial outbreak of Measles accounting for one hundred and eighty one out of the total. There was not a big demand for the new vaccine against Measles, due one must assume to the fact that the reactions to it are rather more marked than with the other vaccines commonly used in babies and young children. It is to be hoped a more acceptable antigen will be available and in general use before the next outbreak is due in eighteen months time.

It is eleven years since there has been a case of Poliomyelitis in South Kesteven. Memories are short and few remember seeing a child with the disease or with the crippling after effects which so frequently occurred. This immunity can only be maintained if every mother makes it her bounden duty to see that her child is protected during its first year of life and again at school entrance age. That far too many are apathetic is shown by the figures for this District. Out of 286 born in 1968 only 186 have been protected or 65 per cent, of which 72 were immunised at the Infant Welfare Clinics. Where are the missing one hundred? Their parents have every right to be thoroughly ashamed of themselves for withholding this protection from the young lives entrusted to their care. What is asked of them - simply that they should attend on three occasions to have three drops of vaccine on their babies tongues each time !!!

The picture is little better when it comes to Diphtheria. It is now twenty two years since the last case of this terrible disease occurred in South Kesteven. A new generation has grown up which having never seen it, do not fear it. Could any of these see the picture of a child, bull necked and in extremis from it or known a child turned into a chronic heart invalid from it, it would leave a memory which they could never forget. This stretch of freedom can only be continued in security if the immunity of the whole child population is maintained. If not the disease could easily return with all its old severity, given half a chance.

Out of the 286 already mentioned as born in 1968, 189 have been immunised, seventy at the Welfare Clinics, but where are the ninety seven who are wide open to the mischance. Will the mothers who have defaulted please think again, act now and there will be no need to repent later! The price is just three injections well spread out concurrently with the Poliomyelitis Vaccine and at the same time protection is also given against Whooping Cough and Tetanus (Lock Jaw). All of this is free but so is infection!

This year there was one death from Tetanus in an Agricultural Worker. This stresses the necessity for all and particularly those engaged in agriculture, horticulture and occupations which bring them into contact with animals and animal products to be immunised actively against this dangerous disease if they wish to exclude the possibility of contracting it. The best time to start is in the first year of life as mentioned above.

There was no case of Dysentery this year.

This was the first year in which Leptospirosis Ictero-Haemorrhagica (Weil's Disease) was made a notifiable disease. One case occurred and a full rat survey and precautions were immediately instituted. This is an infection derived from rats who may excrete the causative organism in their urine and this can survive in damp places for considerable periods. Accordingly those who work on sewers or polluted ditches or watercourses should wear gloves and waders.

They should also avoid getting cuts or scratches and wash thoroughly after work and always before eating or smoking.

A card of precautions published by the Council is given to all its workmen who may find themselves "at risk". Copies are available to anyone in the general public similarly employed, on application to the Health Department.

Influenza was rife at the end of the year, reaching epidemic proportions around Christmas. There was no evidence in retrospect of prior influenzal vaccination being really effective. This is hardly to be wondered at as though the original affecting organism was the Hong Kong variant of the Asia influenza virus, this became hybridized during the course of the epidemic and it would be highly unlikely that any simple vaccine would have given protection against this.

#### Venereal Disease

The numbers of new cases from the southern part of the County which look to the Peterborough District Hospital for treatment was fifty three. Of these eight were teenage girls and seven were teenage boys. This figure cannot be regarded as a full one as some go further afield for treatment. The corresponding figures for 1968 was forty and for 1967 twenty five. This increasing incidence is fully in line with the National picture. Too many are worshipping at the shrine of Venus. It is now second only to Measles as the commonest contagious disease.

## Tuberculosis

<u>TUBERCULOSIS NEW CASES AND MORTALITY DURING 1969</u>						
<u>Age Periods</u>	<u>NEW CASES</u>				<u>DEATHS</u>	
	<u>Pulmonary</u>		<u>Non Pulmonary</u>		<u>Pulmonary</u>	
	<u>M</u>	<u>F</u>	<u>M</u>	<u>F</u>	<u>M</u>	<u>F</u>
35 - 44	1	1	-	-	-	-
55 - 64	1	1	-	-	-	1
TOTALS	2	2	-	-	-	1

There were four new cases of Pulmonary Tuberculosis this year compared with three new cases in 1968 and four in 1967, and one death from the disease was recorded. A full follow up of all the contacts was carried out in every instance.

There were no new cases of the non-pulmonary variety.

Though new infections are much less frequent than of old, there is no doubt that Tubercle is still very much with us. This is proved by the fact that 209 patients with Pulmonary Tubercle attended the Chest Clinic at Bourne or Stamford and of these five had positive sputums at some time during the year.

The continuing close liaison between the Health Visitor and Dr. Bernard Royce and his staff at the Chest Clinics is a most valuable asset in the control of the disease and in bringing all possible help to the patient and his family.

B.C.G. Vaccination against Tuberculosis was offered as usual to all school children aged 13 - 14 years. In South Kesteven schools 160 consents were received, 154 tested and 146 of these being negative were vaccinated. There were six positives but none showed active Tubercle.

In the southern districts as a whole 627 consents were received, 600 were tested, 540 of these were negative and vaccinated. Fifty were positive but no tubercle was found where X-Ray was considered advisable. The remainder were absent at vaccination time. There was a higher response overall than in 1968.

Visits of the Mass Radiography Unit of the East Anglia Regional Hospital Board took place at Stamford and at Bourne during the year. South Kesteven and residents of the Rural District attended both centres.

For the first time and after many and repeated representations had been made to the management of the Unit, a visit was paid to the Deepings from the 6th to the 9th October.

The number which attended and the findings are given below.

CAMBRIDGE MASS RADIOGRAPHY UNIT  
RESULTS OF X-RAY SURVEY  
MARKET DEEPING, PETERBOROUGH  
6.10.69 - 9.10.69

<u>Population</u>	<u>Number available for X-Ray over the</u> <u>age of 15</u>
Market Deeping = 888	642
Deeping St. James = 1506	1125

	<u>Males</u>	<u>Females</u>	<u>Total</u>
Number attended for X-Ray	225	411	636
Number attending for the first time	178	365	543

Attendance by Age Group

	<u>M</u>	<u>F</u>	<u>T</u>
15 - 19	9	24	33
20 - 24	24	31	55
25 - 34	57	109	166
35 - 44	52	102	154
45 - 54	30	69	99
55 - 59	12	24	36
60 - 64	15	24	39
65 and over	26	28	54
	225	411	636

Attendance by Area of Domicile

	<u>M</u>	<u>F</u>	<u>T</u>
Lincoln	169	267	436
Kesteven	42	109	151
Peterborough	2	4	6
Hunts	10	27	37
Miscellaneous (outside the area)	2	4	6
	225	411	636

Attendance by Group Selection

	<u>Males</u>	<u>Females</u>	<u>Total</u>
General public, small shops and firms	210	386	596
Students and School leavers	7	8	15
Teachers	8	9	17
School staff other than teachers	-	8	8
	225	411	636

## F I N D I N G S

A. <u>Non-Tuberculous Conditions</u>	<u>Males</u>	<u>Females</u>	<u>Total</u>
1. Congenital anomalies of the bony thorax	1	2	3
2. Acquired conditions of bony thorax	-	1	1
3. Developmental pulmonary conditions	-	3	3
4. Pneumonia/pneumonitis	1	2	3
5. Chronic bronchitis (gross)	5	2	7
6. Benign neoplasms (all substernal thyroids)	1	2	3
7. Thymoma	1	-	1
8. Acquired cardiac conditions	2	2	4
9. Pleural thickening and fibrosis consequent on previous pulmonary infection	4	9	13
 B. <u>Tuberculous Conditions</u>			
1. Healed primary or other calcified lesions requiring no further action	2	7	9
2. Previously diagnosed tuberculosis already treated and/or under supervision	-	4	4
3. Newly discovered tuberculosis requiring no further action	1	-	1

It is widely regretted that the Mass Radiography Units are likely to be phased out and their work carried out at the Hospital based X-Ray Departments. Their work was particularly valuable in a scattered Rural community where the informality of the Unit had a great appeal. It is hoped that their disappearance will not occur prior to the full alternative service being available in fact and not in theory only, and the procedure of obtaining the examination will be as uncomplicated as it has been in the past.

### Food Poisoning

No case of this was notified during the year.

### National Assistance Act, 1938. Section 47

No action had to be taken under this Act to remove anyone compulsorily from their own home on the grounds of their inadequacy to maintain themselves therein.

## Health Education

The Council gives financial support to the Health Education Council and in return receive and display their posters and make use of the other health propaganda material which is provided. During the year a Seminar was held for Medical and Nursing Staff. This was arranged jointly by the Local Health Authority and the Health Education Council and the subjects were Smoking, Drugs and Venereal Disease. It was certainly topical in the contemporary scene.

The Drug Problem is a great and insidious one in which Health Educators must play an important preventive role. Young people must be left in no doubt as to the dangers and hazards associated with drug taking and an appeal must be made to their sense of social and personal responsibility rather than to fear.

The opinion of Youth itself should be mobilised against the habit as Youth is more likely to listen to those of their own rather than an older Age Group.

What is Health Education? The question is often asked. Certainly it includes teaching people to care more adequately for their own health. It includes the education of children in a healthy way of living and to foster in them the ability to choose patterns of behaviour which encourage health instead of disease. It includes being able to recognise and avoid new threats to health throughout their lives arising from the continuing technological developments and changes within our society. Everyone interested in positive Health has a part to play in all this.

## Commentary

This is Conservation Year and high time it is that the public were awakened to what is going on in the contamination of their environment and for none is this more urgent and vital than those who have the privilege of living in a rural area. Air, Earth and Water are all victims of the onslaught. Each car of average size doing 12,000 miles in a year emits 1,700 lbs. of carbon monoxide, 820 lbs. of assorted hydrocarbons and 90 lbs. of nitrogen oxides and each year brings more and more cars on to the roads. It is only being slowly realised too that the lead which is put in the petrol to stop ignition "knocking" is also implicated in atmospheric pollution. On top of all this in Britain alone fifty two million tons of smoke and five million tons of sulphur dioxide are being spewed into the atmosphere each year.

It maybe of some comfort locally that the atmospheric monitoring station at Kirkby Underwood indicates that our ground level concentrations of smoke and sulphur dioxide pronounce our air to be comparatively clear and pure compared with that of our towns and cities in general.

Into the soil has gone many toxic and highly persistent pesticides of

the Chlorinated Hydro-carbon group and only after a long period of usage was it found that Aldrin, Dieldrin and Heptachlor were unsafe for general use.

D.D.T. is a proven example of a wonder pesticide which by gradual degrees has justly acquired a sinister reputation. Because of its indestructibility D.D.T. builds up in the food chain to reach unacceptable levels. It can also be spread by wind and water to threaten life far away from the place where it was first sprayed and many years later. The contamination of the environment has already gone a long way affecting the micro organisms in the soil -- and the plankton in the sea. It is an excellent thing that it will be dropped from general use within the near future. This does not necessarily preclude it from a still valuable and specific use in say mosquito control in the tropics. The Herbicide 2.4 D is also suspect because of its proven ill effects on laboratory animals, in altering the genes for the worse. These dangers have been mentioned repeatedly in these Annual Reports for the past ten years.

As a member of the Rural District Councils Association Sub-Committee on Pesticides, the point was also made at that level.

A new generation of pesticides is coming along based on Carbaryl which it is claimed will be much less toxic to all but insect life and will have the great virtue of non-persistence in soil or food chains. It remains to be seen how well they live up to the claims made on their behalf. An increasing number of cases have been reported of impotence in farm and horticultural workers who had been using a variety of pesticidal sprays. Fortunately these ill effects have proved reversible when spray handling was discontinued, but in some cases only after a prolonged period.

Mention has already been made of the rising nitrate content of subsoil water stemming from the excessive use of artificial manures. Modern packaging and domestic routines have led to ever increasing quantities of empty tins, polystyrene containers, plastic bags and sophisticated wrappings of all sorts together with the remnants of cleansing products, unused medicines, sprays and paints being committed to the earth together with motor bodies and a hundred and one other reminders of our effluent society. Most of these will remain in the soil for indefinite periods or worse still their traces gradually gain access to underground water.

The denudation of the countryside by the removal of trees and hedges is justified it is claimed on immediate economics but will be paid for dearly in land erosion and other environmental depreciation in the long term.

Improved drainage in the Fens has been accompanied by soil shrinkage which in some places has amounted to 10 - 12 feet during the present Century, creating something of a vicious circle, just another example of man's manipulation of the environment.

In 1388 a Sanitary Law of Britain prohibited "the casting of animals filth or refuse into Rivers or ditches in Urban areas on pain of a £20. fine." Today we exploit our water resources with ruthless improvidence. There are constantly repeated accounts of dead fish in rivers and lakes polluted with toxic effluents. The same story is reiterated by the sickness and destruction of birds and sea life around our coasts and by the pollution derived from oil discharges as well. Now the deep waters of the ocean are being assaulted to provide a dumping place for poisonous gases and atomic wastes which may ultimately reach the Country on the ocean drifts. The River Boards have done a tremendous amount to conserve and to maintain our water resources but still a lot remains to be done to keep pollution down to the lowest possible level.

Antibiotics of many sorts have played an important part in intensive pig, poultry and calf rearing units, both in feeds for increased weight production and also for the curing of animal ills. Unfortunately in this process strains of organisms which are transferable from animals to man causing human diseases have developed resistance to antibiotics. A man infected with these organisms and there is increasing number of such infections particularly by food poisoning (*Salmonella Typhi-Murium*) organisms, is therefore denied the use of common antibiotics in his treatment, with dire consequences. Large sections of medical opinion were deeply worried by these trends. On the other hand the stock breeder is under pressure to be efficient, his margins are tight and every extra week or even day added to the time taken to mature a chicken or a pig erodes that margin. He has seen in antibiotics a first class aid and has used them.

It was opportune therefore that the Swan Committee of experts fully and impartially investigated the whole problem and pronounced accordingly. In future the only antibiotics which will be obtainable without prescription are those that have little or no application as therapeutic agents in man or animals and also those who are innocent of the risk of producing resistant strains of organisms. In simpler terms "feed" antibiotics will be uncontrolled, "therapeutic" antibiotics will be allowed on prescription only. When fully implemented this ought to hold a fair balance between the two interests but continuing review of the situation will none-the-less be imperative. There are at the moment over 1,000 antibiotics and new ones are constantly being added to the list which indicates the size of the problem.

With over 100 million head of poultry and seven million pigs and eleven million cattle it is obvious that so called factory farming is here to stay. It is no part of the review to comment on the animal Welfare aspects of hens, turkeys and other birds passing their entire lives indoors on deep litter, slats, wire or in battery cages; nor veal-calf, beef and pig production under cover in cramped surroundings and without a sight of day. This was the work of the Brambell Committee. It is locally relevant however to express concern over the disposal of effluvia from such units in particular and farm effluents in general. Each bovine produces the daily sewage equivalent of five persons, a pig of at least three and two chickens of one so it will be seen this

constitutes a high biological oxygen demand for treatment. A pig farm of 100 head would produce the sewage equivalent of a town of 10,000 people !! Naturally there is little enthusiasm for this type of concentrated sewage being passed through the sewers to the Disposal Works which could be disturbed and overloaded in the process. Most establishments collect the sewage in underground tanks; the contents of which are collected periodically and sprayed over agricultural land. Complaints of nuisance from these procedures have been made at the stage of collection, carriage and final disposal. The stench arising from poultry manure is particularly nauseating and invasive and naturally householders subjected to it protest vehemently and all efforts to deodorise or mask the offending material have proved abortive in our experience. So far there has been no lead or advice from Government Research, Agricultural Advisory or other bodies on how this problem is to be faced and surmounted and it is an ever expanding one.

Turning away from Ecology and some of the environmental threats of our time, this year also saw the coming of age of the Welfare State. The social and medical triumphs and disappointments attendant upon it would fill a volume. Suffice it to say that continuing care and financial assistance is now the experience of all the weaker members of the community. Never were our children healthier, the expectation of life longer and the attention to the needs of the elderly more comprehensive. It is salutary to look over ones shoulder down the road which has been travelled in these twenty one years and acknowledge with gratitude what has been accomplished.

Closer integration between the work of social, welfare, medical and paramedical services remains a necessity to close anomalous gaps which still exist. Just one example is that a person under pensionable age who is physically handicapped can be so registered and helped by the Local Welfare Authorities. They can have aids installed such as a bath and lavatory hoists in their homes and alterations carried out by the said Authorities. If however a person becomes crippled after retirement age he cannot be so helped with domestic aids except through voluntary effort. Complementary services sometimes overlap and sometimes diverge creating a gap in which the needs of some individual are not met. A succession of Committees, White and Green Papers, Seebom, Maud and so on have tried to provide an answer to these problems.

In fact it has been to the same desirable end but a much less traumatic way that those locally engaged in these diverse disciplines but all dedicated to helping the needy found their own solution to bridging the gaps in communication and help.

The Co-ordinating Committee for the Welfare of Children at Risk and the Co-ordinating Committee for the Welfare of the Elderly for the past seven years have worked towards precisely this end with great success. Their membership is drawn from every Statutory Service working in their respective spheres of interest. During the year twenty individual elderly persons had their needs and supportive help discussed by the latter Committee; and

twenty two families in which children were considered to be at material risk from parental incompetence or neglect were likewise kept under review and helped through the agency of the former.

The Council's booklet "A Guide to the Services for the Elderly" was first produced in 1960 and through the kind assistance of successive Managers of the local offices of the Ministry of Social Security, it was widely distributed; by sending a copy to each person who reached pensionable age.

This year, due to reorganisation, the local offices are now at Peterborough and serve a much bigger area. Accordingly, this distribution method has been discontinued as these booklets are relevant to Stamford and South Kesteven residents and such residents cannot be differentiated from those living in other areas to whom the information might not be applicable. It only remains to say thanks for past favours. It is however one more warning how local initiative, local information and acceptance of local wishes are likely to disappear with other good fairies in the uniformity at the bottom of Maud's garden.

In this section of last year's report were featured some of the disturbing aspects of the Permissive Society. This has advanced still further in the past twelve months with the new Divorce Act now operating which reduces still further the security of Marriage as a stabilising factor. The Abortion Act has had the effect of increasing the registered abortions from 6,000 a year to over 1,500 a week. "The Progressives" are advocating the provision of birth control facilities for girls under sixteen years of age and the New Education Miscellaneous Provisions Bill envisages including accredited mistresses of students within the Grant award.

The age of majority has been reduced to 18 years at which age contracts are binding just as effectively as in the case of their elders and these teenagers lose all the protection which they latterly enjoyed. It also brings an electoral vote. The age at which consent to operations, injections and dental treatment is legal has been reduced to sixteen, so we may yet overcome the objections of some recalcitrant parents when their sixteen year olds are willing for protective immunisation !

The spate of legislation for our benefit continues with a productivity which ought to be the envy of Industry and gain an Award. A further fifty Acts and well over 1,000 Regulations went on the Statute Book this year making a total of 130 new Laws and well over 4,500 new Regulations within the past three years.

Amidst this Bedlam of Permissiveness on the one side and Direction on the other is it really to be wondered at that Youth is asking awkward questions and showing signs of revolt. They have all the potential of greatness. No previous generation cared more for those subjected to injustice and deprivation. What they need is inspiring Leadership and their energies

canalised in the right direction and away from the frustration of feeling they do not count as individuals.

The reorganisation of Local Government is imminent but exactly in what form remains to be seen. It is of paramount importance that the personal touch must be maintained if it is to retain its soul after restructuring. The outstanding achievement of this Authority has been the fostering and maintaining of a personal relationship between the members and the staff of the Council and any member of the Public who has a request to make or a question to ask. The framework within which this is contained must be safeguarded. Local environmental services must be locally administered. Surely this is a Sine qua Non !

After over ten years of wonderful service to the elderly sick, the bedridden and the incontinent, the Deeping Voluntary Laundry is soon to close. The universality of the washing machine and changing social circumstances together have combined to oust the need of it. Its epitaph will be 'A job well done brought its own reward', and in the gratitude of many who benefited from it during its lifetime.

The writer has been privileged to be the Co-ordinator of Medical Matters for the Rural District Review for another year and has also been Advisor on Public Health matters for the new Medical Quarterly "Rural Medicine". This is intended to review subjects of particular interest to all doctors practising in Rural areas no matter which Branch of the profession they follow.

Participation on the Area Maternity Liaison Committee and the Post Graduate Education Committee of the Peterborough Hospital Group and the Chair holder of the Ministry of Employment and Productivity Disablement Advisory Committee and other Bodies does foster a spirit of co-operation between the Health Department and the Staff of these organisations. This liaison with Colleagues in other spheres does help enormously when help is sought for the individual who has a problem.

In drawing this report to a close, I wish to express my keen appreciation to Mr. Chivers for all his wholehearted support and painstaking help over another year and the friendly atmosphere which he has done so much to mould and foster in the Department. He is ably backed in this by his colleagues Mr. Bower, Mr. Goodley, Mr. Busby and the pupil Public Health Inspector Mr. B. Capindale.

Tribute has already been paid to the work of Mr. Maxfield. His enthusiasm is reflected in the ever widening scope and interests of the Laboratory. The appointment of Miss Atkin to assist him has been a very successful one. At the end of the year feelers were being put out by the Water Board to call upon this Service and this would certainly prove a most statesman like marrying of interests.

Miss Rawlinson brings great energy and enthusiasm to the clerical work of the Department and greets the public with a smile. She is fully supported by Miss N. Foster.

Yours sincerely,

Medical Officer of Health.

FACTORIES ACT 1937 & 1948

The Annual Report of the Medical Officer of Health  
in respect of the year 1969 for the Rural District  
of South Kesteven in the County of (Kesteven)  
Lincolnshire.

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PART 1 OF THE ACT

1. Inspection for purposes of provision as to health.

Premises	Number on Register	Inspections	Number of Written Notices	Occupiers Prosecuted
(1) Factories in which sections 1, 2, 3, 4 & 6 are to be enforced by the Local Authority	4	-	-	-
(2) Factories not included in (1) in which section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority	69	17	-	-
(3) Other premises in which section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority (including outworkers' premises)	-	-	-	-
TOTALS	73	17	-	-

2. Cases in which defects were found.

Particulars	Number of cases in which defects were found				
	Found	Remedied	Referred		No. of cases in which prosecutions were instituted
			To H.M. Inspector	By H.M. Inspector	
Want of Cleanliness (S.1.)	-	-	-	-	-
Overcrowding (S.2.)	-	-	-	-	-
Inadequate temperature (S.3.)	-	-	-	-	-
Ineffective drainage (S.6.)	-	-	-	-	-
Sanitary Conveniences (S.7.)					
(a) Insufficient	3	3	-	-	-
(b) Unsuitable or defective	3	3	-	-	-
(c) Not separate for sexes	-	-	-	-	-
Other offences against the Act (not including Outwork)	1	-	1	-	-
TOTALS	7	6	1	-	-

PART VIII OF THE ACT

<u>Outwork</u>						
Nature of Work	No. of Outworkers	No. of cases in default in sending lists to the Council	No. of prosecutions for failure to supply lists	Notices served	Prosecutions	No. of instances for work in unwholesome premises
Carding etc. of Buttons etc.	-	-	-	-	-	-
TOTALS	-	-	-	-	-	-

H. ELLIS SMITH

Medical Officer of Health.



